The Condition of the rural poor has steadily improved, as part of a continuing process to which special attention is being accorded.

RD Schemes of Andhra Pradesh pending Approval

744. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have submitted a number of rural development schemes for approval during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of schemes/projects submitted and the details of those approved, year-wise; and

(c) when the remaining schemes would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted 33 projects for providing safe drinking water supply under Sub-Mission Projects during 1996-97 and 1997-98. Since 1-4-98 all powers for sanctioning sub mission projects have been delegated to the State Government. In addition, proposals in respect of 5 pilot projects have been received for implementation of sector reforms. These projects are under consideration of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Under Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP) Scheme, 21 Projects have been received during the last three years, out of which 13 projects have been sanctioned and 8 projects are under process for sanction. No time frame can be fixed for sanction of the projects as it depends upon the viability of the project and availability of funds. The IWDP projects have been prioritised in consultation with the State Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for sanction.

Two special project proposals viz (i) Setting up of Technology and Training Development Centres in Andhra Pradesh and (ii) Setting up of Permanent Marketing Centres have been received under Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) from the State Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and are under consideration of the Ministry.

Under Rural Sanitation Programme, two proposals for construction of Sanitary latrines at the cost of Rs. 32 crore and Rs. 126.03 crore respectively and one Integrated Rural Sanitation Project at the cost of Rs. 259.97 crore were received during last three years for which clarification are awaited from the State Government. Two projects namely, (a) Integrated Sanitation approach in 4 districts of East Godawari, West Godawari, Krishna and Guntur with

total cost of Rs. 2908.82 lakh and (b) Rural Sanitation facilities in Khammam District with total cost of Rs. 1462.59 lakh were approved during 1998-99. Another project of Total Sanitation Campaign in Khammam District was approved at total cost of Rs. 918.80 lakh during 1999-2000.

Implementation Status of IAEPS

745. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objective, target and achievement of IAEPS and the details of future strategy;

(b) the State-wise implementation status of IAEPS implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the first two years of the Ninth Five Year Plan including allocation made and amount utilised by each State; and

(c) the details of pending proposals and reasons for very low coverage of those schemes in Assam and action contemplated to accelerate during Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board (NAEB) in the Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing an Integrated Afforestation & Eco-Development Project (IAEP) Scheme, Objectives of this scheme are given in the Statement-I. (*See* below) This is an On going Scheme and will continue during the Ninth Plan Period subject to continuation of the scheme. The details of funds released and utilised during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the first two years of the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise are given in the Statement-II (*See* below)

(c) Six IEAP projects have been sanctioned for Assam State at a total cost of Rs. 415.05 lakhs (including Rs. 20.00 lakhs for maintenance of Karbi Anglong Project) for the IX Plan.

One project proposal for Nagaon district of Assam State under Integrated afforestation & Eco-Development Project Scheme has been received for development of 500 ha. of degraded lands at a cost of Rs. 70.00 lakhs for consideration/approval. The projects aims at development of lands in Kalai Valley, Jamuna, Kalong and Kakki Micro-Watersheds during the IX Plan. The sanction of the IAEP project proposals depend upon their viability, conformity with the Guidelines of the Scheme and availability of funds.